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Stetson Kindred of America
INC.

ACCOUNT OF
SECOND REUNION
AND
OTHER DATA

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS



Stetson Kindred of America
INC.

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Through "The Stetson"

Kindred of America.

Nov. 21. 1926



*Intending to visit
of his office in New York City*

PRESIDENT STETSON.
New York City.

STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA

(Inc.)

no. 1
BRIEF SKETCH OF

WORK OF ORGANIZATION

AND

EXTENDED ACCOUNT OF SECOND REUNION

HELD AUGUST 18, 1906

ADDRESSES IN FULL COPY OF DEED LAND COURTS DECREE

NAMES OF OFFICERS MEMBERS OF CORPORATION

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

COMPILED BY THE SECRETARY

MEDFORD, MASS.

PRESS OF J. C. MILLER, JR., 3 AND 5 LAURIAT PLACE

1907



ROBERT STETSON GORHAM.
Vice President.

ORIGIN OF

Stetson Kindred of America (Inc.)

At a meeting of four Stetsons in the month of August, 1905, it was agreed that an effort should be made to get together as many as possible of the descendants of Cornet Robert Stetson, and the matter was left with full power in the hands of George W. Stetson of Medford.

On Oct. 14 there were gathered in the town of Norwell eighty-four persons, all lineal descendants of Cornet Robert. They stood about the spot where once was the house of their ancestor. They went through the present house that has held full sway for nearly one hundred and eighty years. They quaffed water from the spring that their ancestor used, and which never has been dry from 1634 to the present time. Then they went to "Stetson Hall," ate their basket lunch, and decided to organize an association to be known as the "Stetson Kindred of America." They elected temporary officers and instructed them to incorporate under the laws of Massachusetts.

The officers elected were: President, Francis Lynde Stetson, New York City; Vice-President, John B. Stetson, Philadelphia; Secretary and Treasurer, George W. Stetson, Medford, Mass.; Executive Committee, the above and Miss Frances A. Plimpton, Boston; Eugene E. Stetson, Norwell; Daniel E. Damon, Plymouth, Mass.; Thomas D. Stetson, New York; W. W. Stetson, Augusta, Me.; Warren B. Stetson, Middleboro, Mass.; James B. Stetson, San Francisco, Cal.; Albert Stetson, Los Angeles, Cal.

The matter of incorporating was placed with full powers in the hands of Robert Stetson Gorham (now Vice-President), and an agreement drawn up, as follows:

AGREEMENT OF ASSOCIATION.

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do, by this agreement associate ourselves with the intention to constitute a corporation according to the provisions of the one hundred and twenty-fifth Chapter of the Revised Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Acts in amendment thereof and in addition thereto.

The name by which the corporation shall be known is "Stetson Kindred of America," Inc.

The corporation is constituted for the purpose of encouraging antiquarian, genealogical and historical researches, especially with reference to the times, the ancestors and the descendants of Robert Stetson, who settled at Scituate (now Norwell), Plymouth County, Massachusetts, about the year 1635, and there died, on or about Feb. 1, 1703.

The place within which the corporation is established or located is the City of Boston, within said **Commonwealth**.

The amount of its capital stock is nothing.

The par value of its shares is nothing.

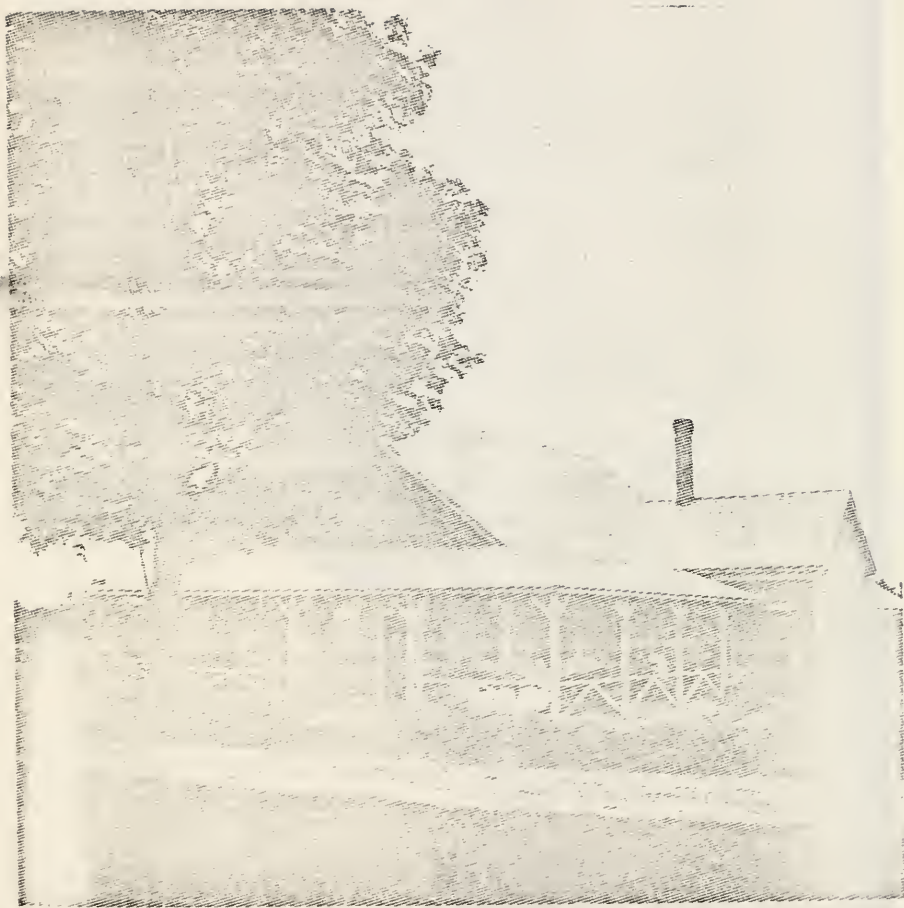
The number of its shares is none.

The charter granted reads as follows:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

No. 10706.

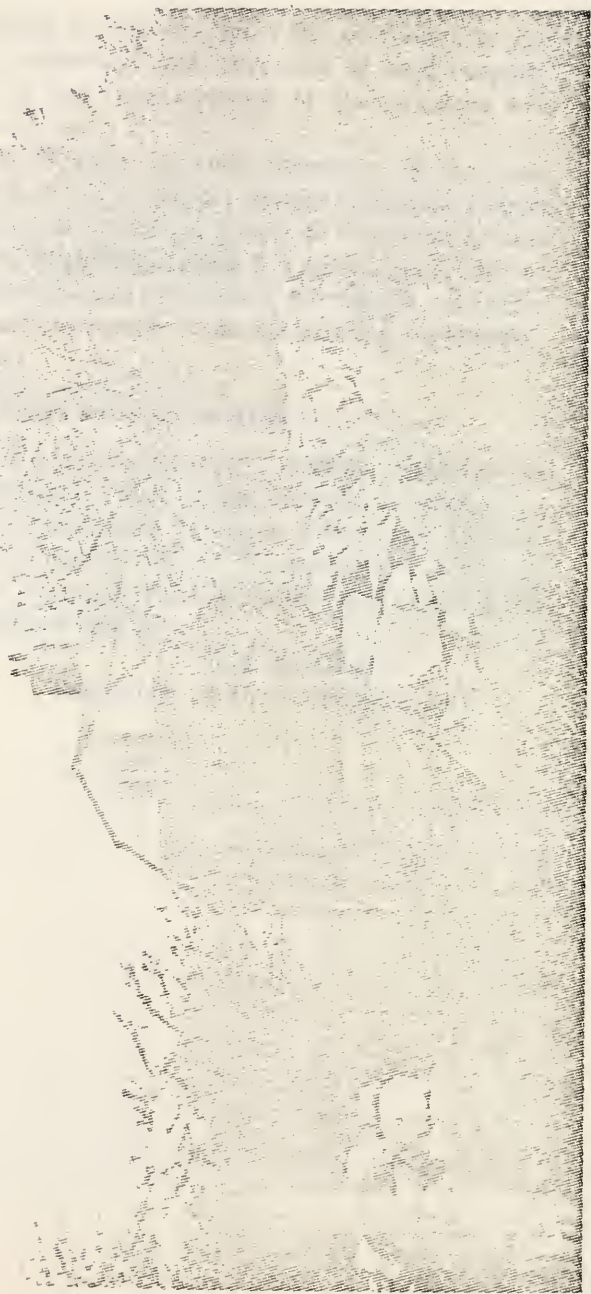
Be it known that, whereas, Robert Stetson Gorham, Francis S. Beckford, Henry L. Shattuck, Allison G. Catheron, Agnes E. Raymond, James E. Carroll and Florence K. Kienzle have associated themselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the name of the "Stetson Kindred of America, Inc." for the purpose of encouraging antiquarian, genealogical and historical researches, especially with reference to the times, the ancestors and the descendants of Robert Stetson, who settled at Scituate (now Norwell), Plymouth County, Massachusetts, about the year 1635, and there died on or about Feb. 1, 1703, and have complied with the provisions of the Statutes of this Commonwealth in such



STETSON HALL.

Birthplace of the Stetson Kindred of America, Inc.

THE GAMMEL ROOF HOUSE SOUTH OF CORPORATION PROPERTY. A former home of Sycora.



case made and provided, as appears from the certificate of the President, Treasurer, Secretary and Directors of said corporation, duly approved by the Commissioner of Corporations and recorded in this office:

Now, therefore, I, William M. Olin, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that said Robert Stetson Gorham, Francis S. Beckford, Henry L. Shattuck, Allison G. Catheron, Agnes E. Raymond, James E. Carroll and Florence K. Kienzle, their associates and successors, are legally organized and established as, and are hereby made, an existing corporation under the name of the

STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA, INC.,

with the powers, rights and privileges and subject to the limitations, duties and restrictions which by law appertain thereto.

Witness my official signature hereunto subscribed, and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hereunto affixed, this fourteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and five.

WM. M. OLIN,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

SEAL

By-Laws.

On Tuesday, Nov. 13, 1905, Robert Stetson Gorham and his associates met at 60 State Street, Room 1000, Boston, and organized and elected temporary officers.

The following By-Laws were unanimously adopted.

ARTICLE I.

Name. Location. Purposes.

This Corporation shall be known as the "Stetson Kindred of America," Inc., and be located at Boston, Massachusetts, and is constituted for the purpose of encouraging antiquarian, genealogical and historical researches, especially with reference to the times, the ancestors and the descendants of ROBERT STETSON, who settled at Scituate (now Norwell), Plymouth County, Massachusetts, about the year 1635, and there died on or about Feb. 1, 1703.

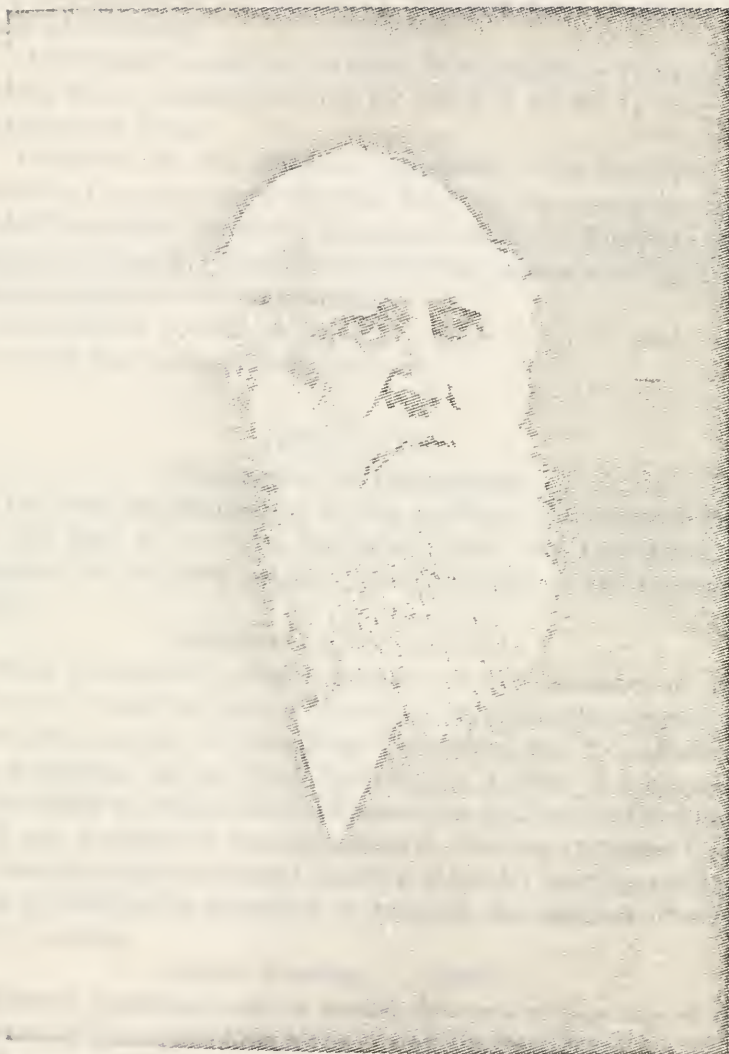
ARTICLE II.

Officers and their Election.

The officers of the corporation shall be chosen by ballot, and shall be a Secretary, Treasurer, Board of eleven (11) Directors, a President, Vice-President, and an Executive Committee of three (3) of the Directors.

At the meeting for organization shall be chosen a Secretary, Treasurer, and eleven (11) Directors, to hold office until the first annual meeting.

Immediately after such meeting for the election of officers, the Board of Directors shall meet, and for that purpose those who are present shall constitute a quorum, and choose by ballot from among the Directors a President, a Vice-President and an Executive Committee of three (3), to hold office until the next annual meeting.



THOMAS DREW STETSON.
New York.
A DIRECTOR.

Vacancies, How Filled.

If a vacancy occurs in the office of Directors, a meeting of the corporation may be called to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term, but meantime the remaining Directors shall constitute the Board of Directors.

If a vacancy occurs in the office of Secretary or Treasurer, a meeting of the corporation shall be called to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

Vacancies in the offices of President, Vice-President, or Executive Committeemen, shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Executive Committee, unless the Board of Directors is in session or unless the Executive Committee calls a meeting of the Board of Directors for that purpose.

All officers chosen as in this Article provided, shall hold office until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE III.

Meetings of the Corporation.

The first annual meeting of the members of the corporation shall be held as soon as convenient after the Certificate of Organization has been issued by the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Regular Annual Meetings.

Each subsequent annual meeting of the members of the corporation shall be held in Boston or Norwell, Massachusetts, as the Directors or the Executive Committee may from time to time determine, on the third Saturday in August of each year, for the choice of officers and the transaction of any other business which may properly be brought before it. In case of failure from any cause to hold any annual meeting, a special meeting shall be called as hereinafter provided, to transact the business of such annual meeting.

Special Meetings. Notices.

Special meetings may be called by vote of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee, or by the President.

Notices of all meetings shall be printed or in writing, shall

state the matters to be there considered, and shall be mailed to all members, addressed at their several addresses of record, at least two weeks before the day of holding the meeting.

Quorum.

Eleven (11) members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IV.

Membership Interest.

The members of the corporation shall have an equal interest in the property of the corporation, but said interest shall not be transferable, and the interest of each shall determine with his membership.

Election of Members.

The membership shall consist of the original incorporators, such persons as shall be elected by them, and such further persons adjudged by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee to be lineal descendants of Robert Stetson, who settled at Scituate (now Norwell), in Plymouth County, Massachusetts, about the year 1635. and there died about Feb. 1, 1703, as shall by ballot be unanimously elected by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee and shall pay the admission fee provided for in Article V of these By-Laws.

Certificate of Membership and Seal.

The Secretary shall issue to each member a certificate of membership in such form as the Board of Directors or Executive Committee shall from time to time prescribe, and shall enter the name and address on the membership rolls of the corporation.

The Board of Directors or Executive Committee may adopt as the seal of the corporation such device as they deem proper.

Resignation of Members.

By written resignation, signed on the record or mailed to the Secretary, any person may at any time terminate his or her membership.



JAMES B. STETSON.
San Francisco, Cal.
A DIRECTOR

ARTICLE V.

Admission Fee.

Each member elected to membership by the Board of Directors or Executive Committee, shall pay to the Treasurer an admission fee of one dollar (\$1.00), or such greater amount, not exceeding ten dollars (\$10.00), as the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee shall from time to time fix.

Annual Dues.

Every member shall pay as annual dues such sum, not exceeding five dollars (\$5.00), as the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee shall from time to time fix.

Bills for the annual dues shall be rendered by the Treasurer on or before May 1, beginning with May 1, 1906, and be payable on or before June 1 of each year.

Penalties for Non-Payment of Dues.

No member whose dues are in arrears shall be eligible to vote at any meeting of the Corporation. In case of non-payment of his or her annual dues, a member may be dropped from membership by vote of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI.

Board of Directors and its Meetings.

The Board of Directors shall hold meetings at the request of any Director, upon notice by the Secretary personally given, or mailed properly addressed to each Director two weeks at least before the holding of such meeting. Five (5) Directors shall constitute a quorum of the Board. Said Board shall have all the powers of the Corporation, except as by law or herein otherwise provided.

After the year 1905, only members of the Corporation shall be eligible to be chosen or to continue to serve as Directors.

ARTICLE VII.

Executive Committee and Its Meetings.

In the Executive Committee shall vest all the powers of the Board of Directors, except when said Board is in session.

The certificate of the Secretary as to whether the Board was in session shall be sufficient evidence of the fact. Two shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee. Its meetings shall be called on request made to the Secretary by any member of the Committee, and shall by the Secretary be called by at least twenty-four hours' notice given or mailed to each member of the Committee.

ARTICLE VIII.

Secretary.

The Secretary shall keep the records of the corporation, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. He shall be the custodian of all the books and papers of the corporation, except as herein otherwise provided. He shall send the notices for all meetings of the corporation, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all moneys and securities of the corporation, and shall keep accurate books of account thereof. He shall, if at any time so required by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee, give a bond, with a surety company as surety and in such form and amount as to said Board or Committee seems proper, for the faithful performance of his duties, the expense of such bond to be borne by the corporation, and the bond to be kept in the custody of the President. The Treasurer's accounts shall each year be audited by the Executive Committee and submitted, with such audit, at the annual meeting of the members.

Fiscal Year. One Person may be Secretary and Treasurer.

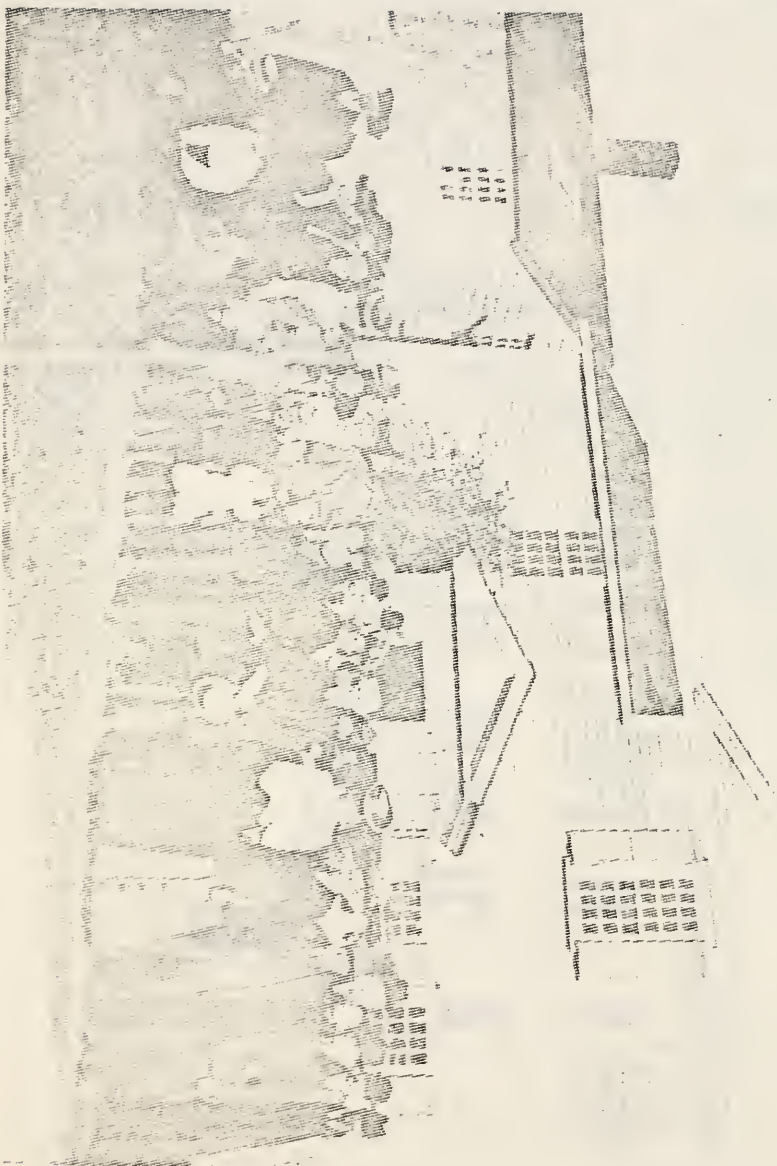
The fiscal year of the corporation shall end July 1. The same person may act as Secretary and Treasurer, and may also serve on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

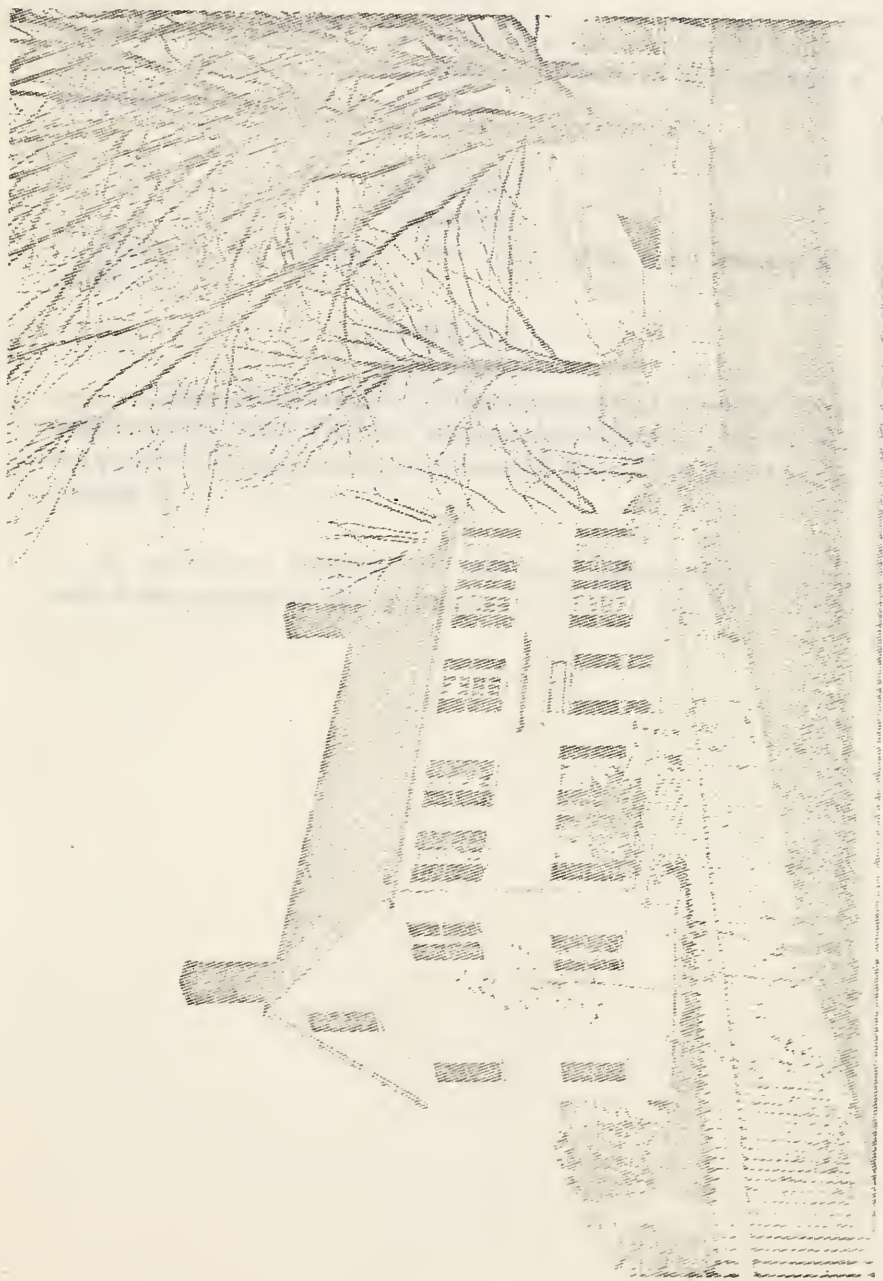
ARTICLE IX.

President and Vice President.

The President, and in his absence the Vice-President, shall

GROUP PICTURE OF THOSE ATTENDING CATERING IN 1903





preside at all meetings of the members of the corporation and the Board of Directors. In the absence of both of said officers, a temporary chairman shall be chosen.

ARTICLE X.

Salaries.

None of the officers of the corporation shall receive any salaries.

ARTICLE XI.

Amendments.

These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the members duly called for such purpose, but the admission fee and the annual dues shall never be increased beyond the limits set by Article V.

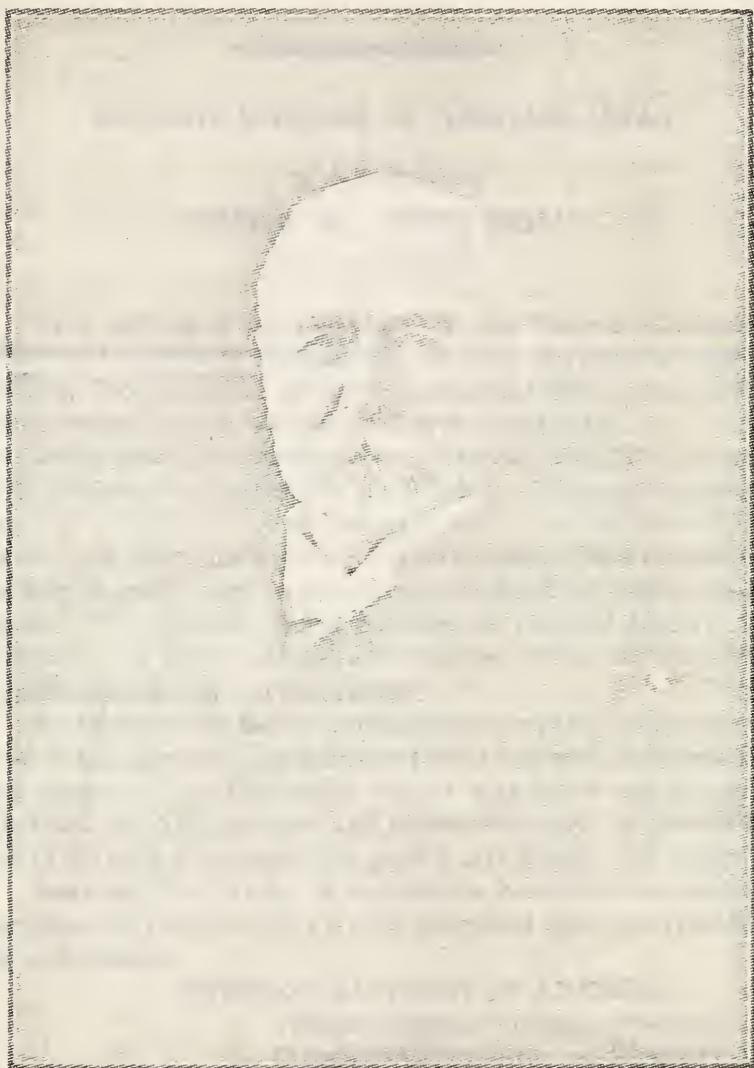
A permanent organization was then effected and officers elected as required by the By-Laws.

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

On Nov. 15, 1905, the first annual meeting of Stetson Kindred of America, Inc., was held; members were elected and the temporary officers elected in October were made the permanent officers.

At a meeting of the Directors, held in Boston, July 20, 1906, the death of John B. Stetson, Vice-President, was announced, and Robert Stetson Gorham was elected to fill the vacancy.

A committee was appointed to draw up a suitable minute of the death of Mr. Stetson. They reported the following, which was adopted by the committee and an engrossed copy was forwarded to the family of the deceased.



LATE JOHN R. STETSON.

Philadelphia, Pa.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT OF CORPORATION.

Stetson Kindred of America (Inc.)

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN B. STETSON.

LATE VICE-PRESIDENT.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Stetson Kindred of America, Inc., held in Boston, July 20, 1906, the death of John B. Stetson, Vice-President of the corporation, was announced and the following minute was adopted by a rising vote.

In the passing of our associate, JOHN B. STETSON from his earthly labors to a higher life, the Kindred of Stetson in America has lost a brother whose character and achievements reflected lustre upon the name of our common ancestor. His counsel and his help in promoting the purposes of the Kindred will be greatly missed. The business world has lost an eminent leader. The community in which he lived an estimable citizen and his family an affectionate husband and father.

We tender to his family our heartfelt sympathy, and we would express the hope that the sadness of their loss may be lessened by the memory of his life, which was at once noble and generous. His example of uprightness and benevolence, both in private life and in his wide relations to the public, was worthy and inspiring.

Resolved, That a copy of this minute be sent to the family of our deceased associate, and a copy be spread upon the records of the corporation.

STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA.

Francis Lynde Stetson, President.

George William Stetson, Secretary.

A true copy. Attest:

George W. Stetson, Secretary.

THE SECOND REUNION.

On Saturday, Aug. 18, 1906, occurred the second reunion of the Kindred, to which lineal descendants and members of their families to the number of 225 gathered together. To make the occasion the more enjoyable, there had been erected a pavilion 40 x 60 feet, the cost having been advanced for the corporation by the esteemed President, who also invited the members and their husbands or wives to be his guests for the day.

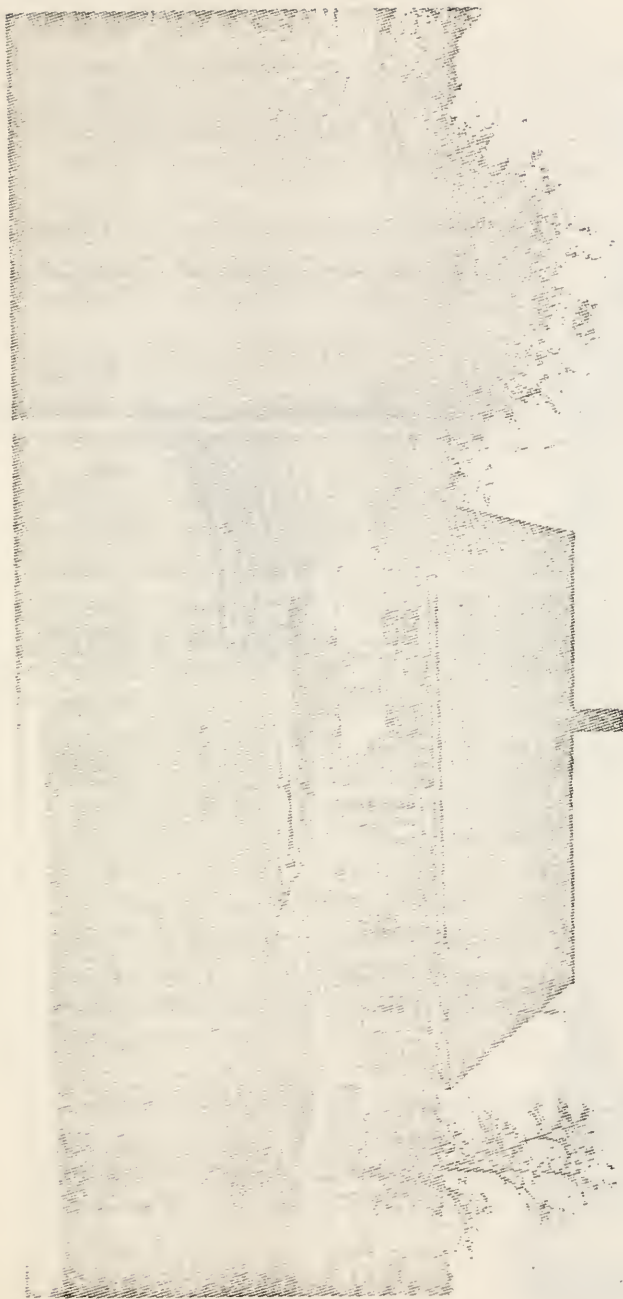
At the hour of high noon The Stetson Kindred of America, to the number of one hundred and forty-three, having gathered at the tables spread for their refreshment at "the Shrine," upon the site of the original homestead of Cornet Robert Stetson, God's blessing was invoked by the Reverend Oscar F. Stetson, of North Carver. After the excellent feast furnished by the caterer, Mr. Granville B. Damon, himself of the Kindred, had been enjoyed by all, the President introduced the orator of the day as follows:

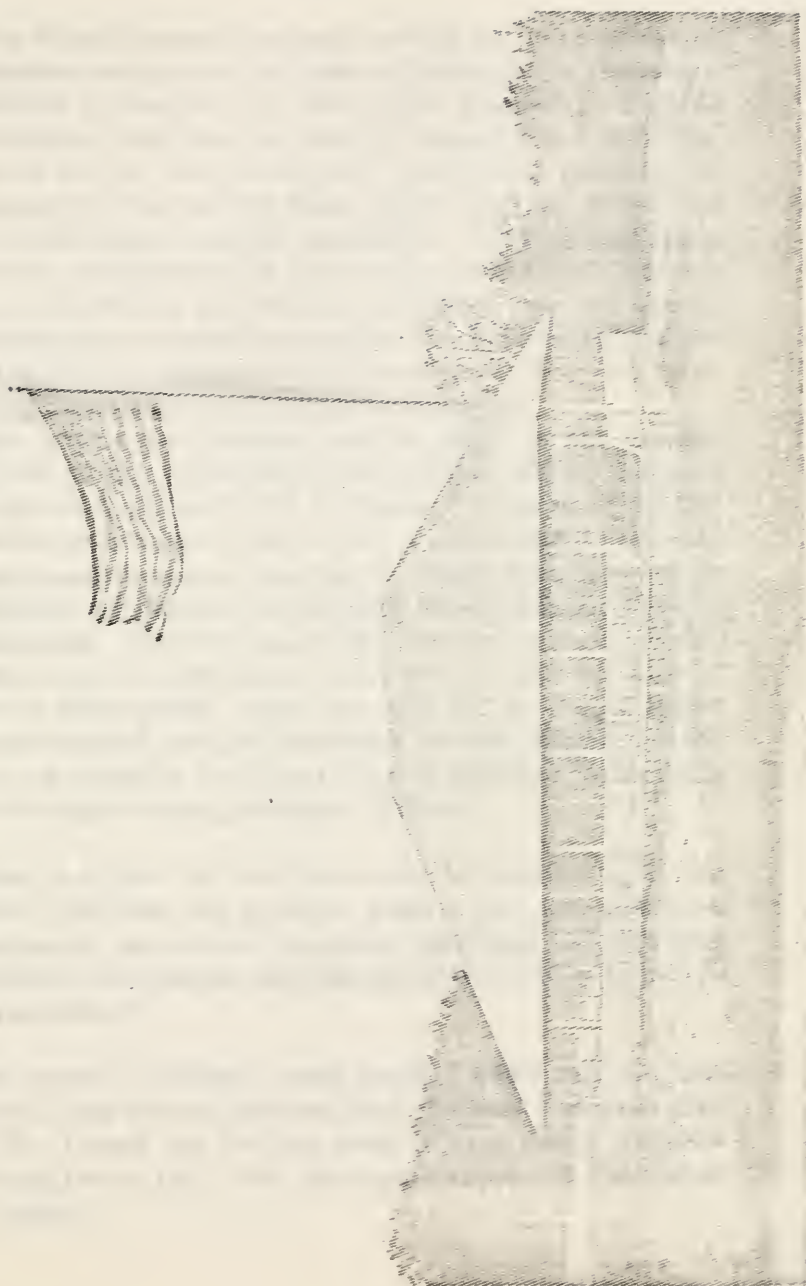
Fellow-Kinsmen—The genial glow of this perfect day of summer competes with the untiring and successful efforts of our indefatigable Secretary in giving you welcome to the Cornet's Spring on this the Second Annual Festival of our clan.

This morning, under the pilotage of my cousin, Robert Stetson Gorham, whose mother was daughter of the seventh Robert, I endeavored by boat to follow the course taken in 1634 up the North River by Robert the first. Thus, it was from the water that I greeted this site of his homestead, still beautiful, though shorn of the perfect fullness of verdure of shore and forest, which first fixed his regard and held him here for nearly seventy years. At this late date of canonization, what better title could we confer upon him than to borrow the designation of his great contemporary, and call him Lord High Protector of the North River? Certainly none guarded over it longer than did he, or from a station of more dignity in the estimation of his fellow-townsmen.

It is interesting to reflect that here, in their independent

THE CHURCH ON THE PROPERTY OF THE CORPORATION.





isolation, he and his associates were working out and establishing for themselves and for us, the forms and principles of representative popular government, for which their kinsmen in England were struggling, even unto the death of themselves and their king. Upon each side of the Atlantic there were bloody conflicts, but that waged here was against King Philip and his tribes, not against King Charles and his supporters. Our Pilgrim Fathers here deeply sympathized with the Puritans in the Old Home, but it was in self-reliance and without dependence upon the issue of the parliamentary struggle there against the Stuarts that the men of the Old Colony from 1620 to 1688 worked out their own salvation and forever fixed their landmarks of liberty.

How largely the character and the efforts of our ancestor contributed to this remarkable consummation will be indicated to you by our kinsman, Mr. D. E. Damon, the orator of the day, upon whose province and time I shall permit myself to encroach only far enough to remind you that the North River was not the only highway of the town of Scituate with which our ancestor was identified. For this reason the directors of your corporation have asked the Selectmen of this town to give the name of Stetson to River Street, which was laid out by Cornet Robert Stetson as foreman of a jury appointed for that purpose in 1646.

An Act passed by the Colony Court in 1639 and re-enacted in 1642 with slight change, provided as follows:

“And if it shall fall out that a way be wanting upon due complaint, that then the Governor panel a jury and upon oath charge them to lay out such way as in conscience they find most beneficial for the common weal and as little prejudice as may be to the particular.”

The people of Scituate acted speedily under this law, and procured a jury for that purpose, with William Vassall as foreman. Mr. Vassall and his jury seem to have wholly neglected their duty, for in July, 1646, this record appears in the Colony Court orders:

"Upon complaint of some of the inhabitants of Scituate that there was great want of highways to be laid out, and a former jury have been empanelled to have done the same, who have not yet, for divers years, recorded their verdict, that the ways might be known as the Court is informed, the Court doth therefore order that a warrant shall be directed to the constables of Scituate requiring them to cause a sufficient jury to be empanelled before Mr. Timothy Hatherly, who upon their oaths shall lay forth all such ways with as much conveniency to the general and as little prejudice to the particulars, as may be according to the act of the Court."

Under this order a new jury was empanelled, with Robert Stetson as foreman, and under his energetic leadership were speedily laid out several of what now are principal highways in the original town of Scituate. Among them was the main highway, now called River Street. As this street owed its original existence to the energy and enterprise of Robert Stetson, we, the Directors of the corporation, thought it would be a just and appropriate recognition of his services as a road builder, if the town now were to give his name to his street.

In concluding these remarks, already too long extended, I wish to pay my tribute to the memory and character of our late Vice-President. John B. Stetson, of Philadelphia, who closed a life of great usefulness to mankind and an unblemished career as a manufacturer and a merchant, at his home in Philadelphia a few weeks since.

Mr. Stetson showed his genuine and generous interest in our association and movement by contributing one-half of the cost of the purchase price of the Old Homestead; and a continuance of his interest is exhibited by his son, John B. Stetson, Jr., who is with us today, and to whom we extend our welcome and our wish and trust that the richest heritage received by him from his father—the priceless jewel of a good name—will be honorably maintained.

I now have the honor to present to you the Orator of the Day, Mr. D. E. Damon, of Plymouth.



DANIEL E. DAMON.

Plymouth.

A DIRECTOR.

Mr. Damon's most excellent address is given in full. He said:

We are here today because two hundred and seventy-two years ago a young man, barely twenty-one years of age, came up the North River farther into the wilderness than any settler before him had gone, and here, where the river bends towards the upland he pitched his tent. What brought him thus afar, three thousand miles from his childhood home, and forever away from all his kindred—for no other Stetson, so far as can be learned, ever came to America?

He was no refugee from religious oppression, and he came not in the spirit of reckless adventure, for he was not that kind of youth. A studied, steady purpose ran through all his life. The motive, I believe, was to be found in the old, old story of a woman's love. That in some one of the families of the early settlers there was a sister or a daughter to whom he held the relation of accepted suitor, and when that family came to New England he came with it or followed soon after.

Under the then existing circumstances he chose well his place of residence. A spring of pure, sweet water bubbled forth from the upland near the marsh line—many of you today have tasted the cool refreshment of the "Cornet's Spring"—the soil was warm, fertile, easily tilled and responsive to intelligent cultivation, the nearby marsh would be useful in many ways, and the river was his highway.

It is safe to say he was then unmarried, for he was only twenty-one, and his first child was not born until five years later. And right here, all alone in the forest, he toiled for four long years, felling trees, clearing land, raising such crops as he could and preparing a home for the woman of his choice.

It was a rude and simple home, but a fine farm to which, in 1638, he brought that rare woman. In this place for nineteen years he led the life of a farmer exclusively, although about 1659 he is called in one of his deeds "carpenter," indicating that for some brief period he may have done some work as a mechanic.

During that nineteen years all his children but one were born. During that period, also, with one possible exception, he seems to have taken no interest in public affairs, was not even a freeman or voter. Then moved by some influence or impulse he entered into a wider life.

Barry, in his invaluable history of the Stetson family, says he became a freeman in 1652. This is an error of one year. June 4, 1652 he was propounded to take up his freedom, and June 7, 1653, when he was forty years of age, he was admitted and sworn as a freeman. The next year, the first year he was eligible, he was elected to the important office of Deputy to the Colony Court, and for eight years successively thereafter. In the whole he served seventeen years in this high office. No other person from Scituate was elected more than six years.

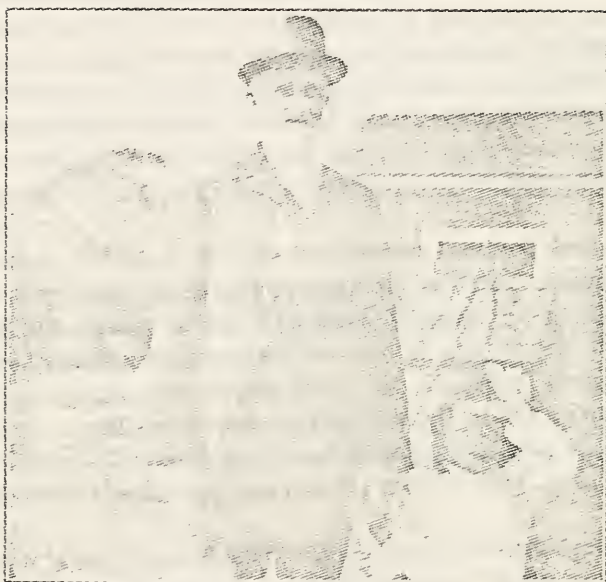
The Colony Court, or General Court, as it was also called (the latter name still attaching to the Legislature of Massachusetts), was composed of the Governor, his seven Assistants and the Deputies (two from each town in the Colony), all sitting together as a legislative body for the enactment of laws. The Governor and his Assistants, the "Magistrates," as they were sometimes called, sat also as a Court for the trial of causes. All were elected by the voters, the freemen.

In 1658 a law was passed providing that towns might elect Boards of Selectmen, who, when approved by the Colony Court, should be a court of limited jurisdiction, authorized to try cases not involving over forty shillings, and all differences between Indians and English. They were given power to issue executions to enforce their judgments.

Whatever Selectmen may have been previously chosen, none were "approved" until December, 1665, and the first board of Scituate in 1666, when Cornet Stetson was one of the number. He was elected to that office five times.

You will observe that in the beginning, for more than one hundred years, and perhaps till the end of the Colonial period, we had an elective judiciary. The trend of recent legislation should teach us that if we wish to avoid the burden of a civil pension list





THE OLDEST AND YOUNGEST

At the first gathering in 1905, and now members of the Kindred.

we must return to an elective judiciary. The average man will find it hard to discover any good reason why a judge, long time in the enjoyment of a large salary from which he might have saved a comfortable fortune, why such a man on reaching a certain age should retire on a large pension, while the poor man of an equally meritorious life at the same age retires to the poorhouse. Such legislation is unjust and at war with democratic institutions, being viciously aristocratic. Dr. Edward Everett Hale, a profound thinker, advocates an equal moderate pension for all on reaching a designated age. Such a law would be sensible and humane, and enable all to live and not lose self-respect. It will not be long before some political party will adopt for its slogan, "Abolish poorhouses, substitute pensions." The safety of a republican form of government is secured only by the imposition of equal burdens and the bestowal of equal rights.

As soon as Robert Stetson became well known to the Colonial government, he was given much public work to perform. Among other things, he had charge of the Kennebec fisheries for a time. He was appointed to make the contract for and to superintend the rebuilding of the bridge over Jones River, in Kingston, then a part of Plymouth. And he served on the Council of War from 1661 to 1681, a period of twenty years and covering the time when occurred the worst of the Indian wars in the most critical time of Colonial history.

The question is sometimes heard, "Why was he called Cornet and what does the name mean?" In 1658, when it began to be feared there would be further and more serious trouble with the Indians, this act was passed:

"It is enacted by the Court and the authority thereof that a troop of horse, well appointed with furniture, viz.: A saddle and a case of petternells for each horse, shall be raised out of the several townships, to be ready for service when required, and maintained for that purpose, to be raised as followeth."

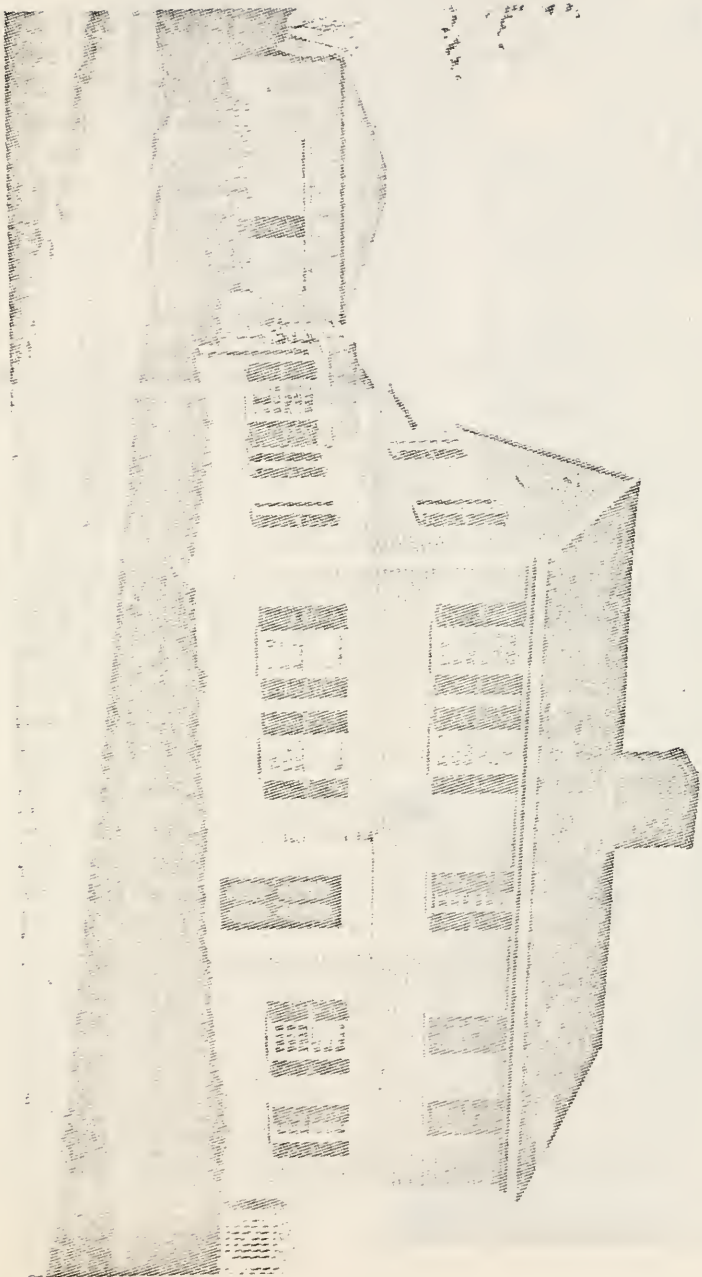
The number from each town is given, but later the same year the allotment was revised and stood as follows: Plymouth

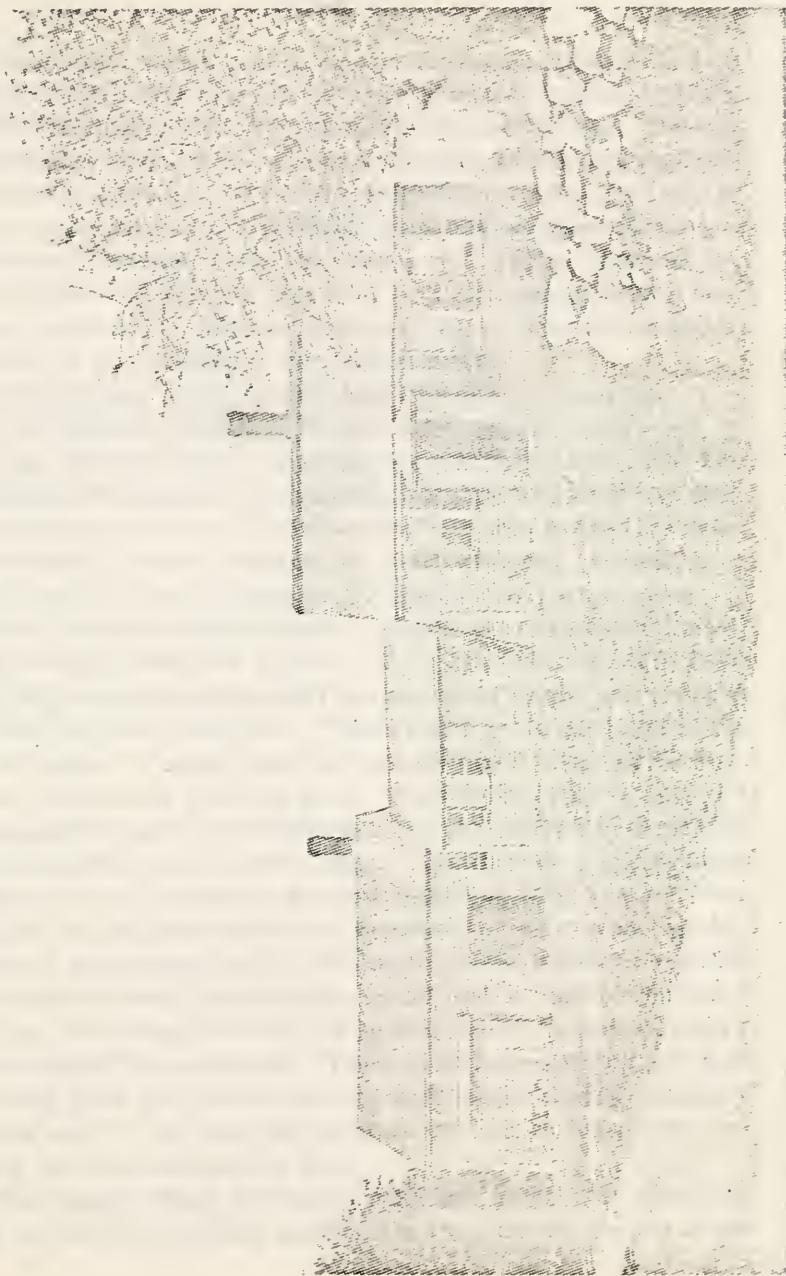
three, Duxbury two, Scituate four, Sandwich three, Taunton three, Yarmouth three, Barnstable three, Marshfield three, Eastham three, Bridgewater two, Sowamset one, Rehoboth three. Thirty-three in all. Not a large troop. This troop, as ordered, was recruited and organized, for in October, 1659, the Colony Court confirmed William Bradford of Plymouth as Captain, John Freeman of Eastham as Lieutenant and Robert Stetson of Scituate Cornet. As a Deputy he had helped to pass the law and as a patriot he promptly enlisted in the troop.

What was a Cornet? The colonists, as a matter of course, copied English customs and language for names and designations. In giving officers to this troop of horse they used the same names as in England, though not altogether applicable here. The three commissioned officers of a troop in England were Captain, Lieutenant and Cornet. The Cornet carried the colors of the troop. We cannot conceive of a Cornet carrying a flag on horseback through the woods in Indian warfare. He was in reality the third officer, whose duty it was to take command in the absence of the Captain and Lieutenant, or to command detachments of the troop when ordered. His work was that of a Second Lieutenant, his office Cornet, because that was the name of it. I doubt if there were ever in the whole history of this whole country more than half a dozen Cornets. Captains, Lieutenants, Majors and Colonels have existed in thousands. I am glad he was Cornet and not Captain, for Cornet Stetson is a name of especial and unique distinction, he standing almost alone as such.

Just here, and in connection with this office, I wish to show that he was never sent as a commissioner to treat with Philip and to try to persuade that chieftian to abandon the warpath. In my search of the records I think I discovered how the mistake occurred, and that Cornet Stetson did take an important part in that mission, though not as commissioner. The importance with which it was regarded is shown by the men selected for it. They were Major Winslow, Captain Southworth and the Treasurer of the Colony, Mr. Southworth. Detailed to do escort duty in this perilous journey was a part of the troop of horse. To command

THE MICAH STETSON HOMESTEAD, NEARLY TWO HUNDRED YEARS OLD.





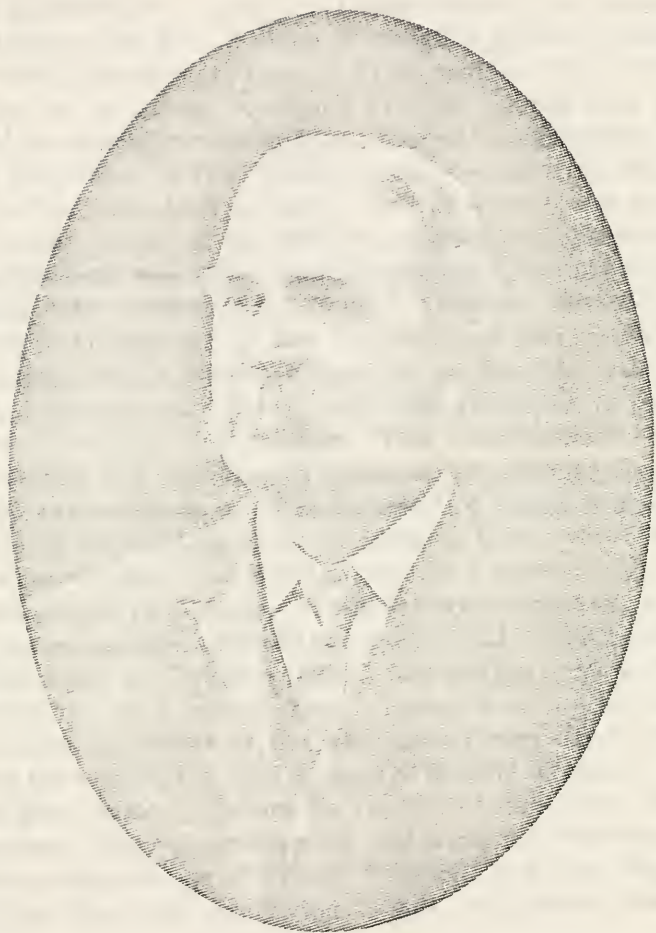
this detachment which was to protect the Commissioners and to safeguard the whole expedition they selected neither Captain Bradford nor Lieutenant Freeman, but Cornet Stetson. He was probably selected for more reasons than one. It was a recognition of his superior military tact and courage for action in all kinds of possible emergencies, but probably also of the value of the services he could render in the conference with Philip. He was not nominally a Commissioner, but was, no doubt, potent in that conference, which led to Philip's disarming for a time and coming to Plymouth to try to explain and recover favor.

I wish to say a few words about the coat of arms that is so much in evidence today. People who become interested in genealogy often develop a weakness for a coat of arms. This has been taken advantage of by designing persons, and they are often manufactured to order. There is something akin to the ridiculous in the coats of arms displayed by some persons. I think that something better can be claimed for the Stetson coat of arms. It is said to have been found, and the claim seems to be well founded, among Robert Stetson's papers. If so it could not have been something he took that belonged to some other family and brought over here into the wilderness. There could be no inducement for him to do so. It could be of no use to him in clearing forests, fighting Indians or planting corn. It could be of no earthly use or ornament in the New World for many generations to come, and this level-headed youth knew all that. But he took it and brought it here, just as he would pack away and bring with him a Christmas gift, an old love letter or a keepsake of any kind, simply because it was something that belonged to him, a coat of arms he had a right to bear, something he could look at and be reminded as by any other memento of old England. Coming thus we have a right to regard it as genuine. There is little or nothing else that he looked upon in life that we can now see in exactly the same form he saw it. In this coat of arms we look at something preserving the same outlines he saw.

The nearest thing to him in existence here today, the only thing we can feel sure his hands have touched are the old stone

walls on this farm. Some of these—we can never know which—were, must have been, built by him. We should let them all stand, lest in removing them we destroy some of his sacred handiwork. They may be restored, using the stones that have fallen down, the same he handled. But removed, never!

He was a business man. He took a lease of the Cape fishery at one time. There was great need of a sawmill in the south part of the town of Scituate, and the town voted quite large privileges to whoever would build one on the Third Herring Brook, provided it was begun within three months. He filed with the proper officers a certificate signed by two men, who therein stated that on the last day of the three months they were in the woods with Cornet Stetson, preparing timber to build the mill. And the mill was built. It was in him not to let this opportunity to engage in the manufacture of lumber pass by. He was the main man in the enterprise, and it was always known as the Cornet's Mill, though Timothy Hatherly and Joseph Tilden had some interest in it with him. This mill was burned by the Indians in 1676. Then or later he built another sawmill on the Indian Head River. To get the requisite fall of water at his first mill it was necessary to flow a large tract of land, known to the present day as "Old Pond." Vestiges of the dam still remain. The enterprise of Cornet Stetson, as it turned towards manufacturing, saw power and utility in this artificial fall of water by him created. Those who believe in heredity, and it must be we all of us do to some extent, may perhaps see how this trait lurking in the blood through all the intervening generations cropped out at the present day, when a descendant of the Cornet, with others, harnessed the mighty forces of Niagara Falls for the creation of an electric plant that furnishes power to run the machinery of a multitude of great factories and light great cities, benefiting and blessing mankind. This mighty magician of our race has been moving about among us today so quietly and modestly that you will not suspect his identity. It is harking back a long way from this wonderful plant at Niagara to the little sawmill at "Old Pond" for cause and effect, and the man who is doing such great things today will



W. W. STETSON.

Augusta, Me.

A DIRECTOR.

not feel flattered at my taking the credit from him and giving it to this remote ancestor. But I am the advocate today of the Cornet's cause.

As a descendant, not only of Cornet Stetson, but also of his revered pastor, the Rev. William Witherell, I deem it peculiarly proper that I should make mention of his religious life. It is not probable that he became connected with any church until about the time the Second, or North River, Church was gathered. This church was formed in 1643 by separation of some of its members from the first church at Scituate. This separation was because Mr. Chauncy, pastor of the first church and later President of Harvard College, was then a Baptist, denying infant baptism and baptising only by immersion. Sept. 7, 1645, Mr. Witherell was installed as minister of the new church. Just four weeks later, Oct. 5, 1645, Robert Stetson brought to baptism his three sons, Joseph, Benjamin and Thomas, and later, from time to time, as they were born, his other children. This would indicate that he was promptly and continuously observant of religious duties. I find only two occasions in which he served on church committees. One was on the building of a new meeting house, the other in 1653, when an effort was made to procure a reconciliation with the other church in Scituate. While he never shirked any duty, I infer that he regarded religious controversy and intolerant zeal no essential points in Christian living. Not seeking to be especially prominent in church affairs, there is reason to believe he was one of those decided, consistent, peace-loving and every day Christians who are the especial stay and support of faithful ministers. There is also good reason to believe the relations between him and his pastor were close and confidential, and when their families were united by the marriage of Samuel Witherell to Eunice Rogers it must have been very gratifying to her grandfather, the aged Cornet.

So far as the records show in his long life of ninety years, he was engaged in only one lawsuit. My criticism of that, Mr. President, is that he was not sufficiently mindful of the interests of our profession. But in reply to that perhaps the company before us would say he was the wiser and happier for avoiding litigation.

About 1681 or 1682, when he was nearing seventy years of age, he practically abandoned public life. He had performed his full duty therein and had done it well. He also sold his sawmill on the Indian Head River and his lands west of Scituate for three hundred pounds, and with his children and grandchildren settled around him, the wars all over, prolonged peace apparently assured, evidently he intended to take life at an easier pace. And right here, thus surrounded by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all living in this same neighborhood, all ministering to his comfort and happiness, his must have been an ideal and truly patriarchal old age, for at his death he left six children, fifty-six grandchildren and twenty-three great-grandchildren. Was ever man more blessed than he. Let us hope that the faithful wife who had borne with him the burden and heat of the earlier day lived long enough to enjoy a little of this later calm. Though it could not have been long, as some time later than 1684, we know not the date, he married as a second wife Mary Bryant, widow of John Bryant.

He died Feb. 1, 1703. In his will, dated five months earlier, Sept. 4, 1702, he recited that he was "weak in body" and in "daily expectation of his last and great change." This may indicate he was feeling the weight of years, and that whatever may have been the proximate cause, the real determining cause of his death was old age, and his end was peace. And he was buried. But where? He and all the other earliest settlers have gone, "Alike without their monumental stone." We would give much could we surround his grave today. Perhaps we have. He died in midwinter, at the usually most inclement season of cold and snow. There was no settled minister over his own church, and if religious services were held, probably Mr. Cushing of the other church attended. It was several miles to the graveyard of the parish. At that season it was more than likely a difficult matter to go so far. Mr. George C. Turner of Norwell, his descendant, has performed an invaluable service in searching out and giving to the world in published form a list of all the gravestones in that old burial ground, and in it there is nothing to favor the theory that he was



MISS SUSEY A. SMITH

Kingston.

A DIRECTOR

buried there. The oldest gravestone was dated 1689. Private burial lots were not uncommon in those earlier days. I think the probability is that he and some, if not all of his family, were buried on his own farm, and not unlikely within the bounds of the land that is soon to be ours. And this will be a doubly holy shrine if it holds such sacred dust. Whether it be so is one of the things we may hope, but hardly expect, will be determined with certainty later on. So it seems to me that close by where we are gathered today they laid him away in everlasting rest by the side of that beloved wife who was the faithful mother of his large family.

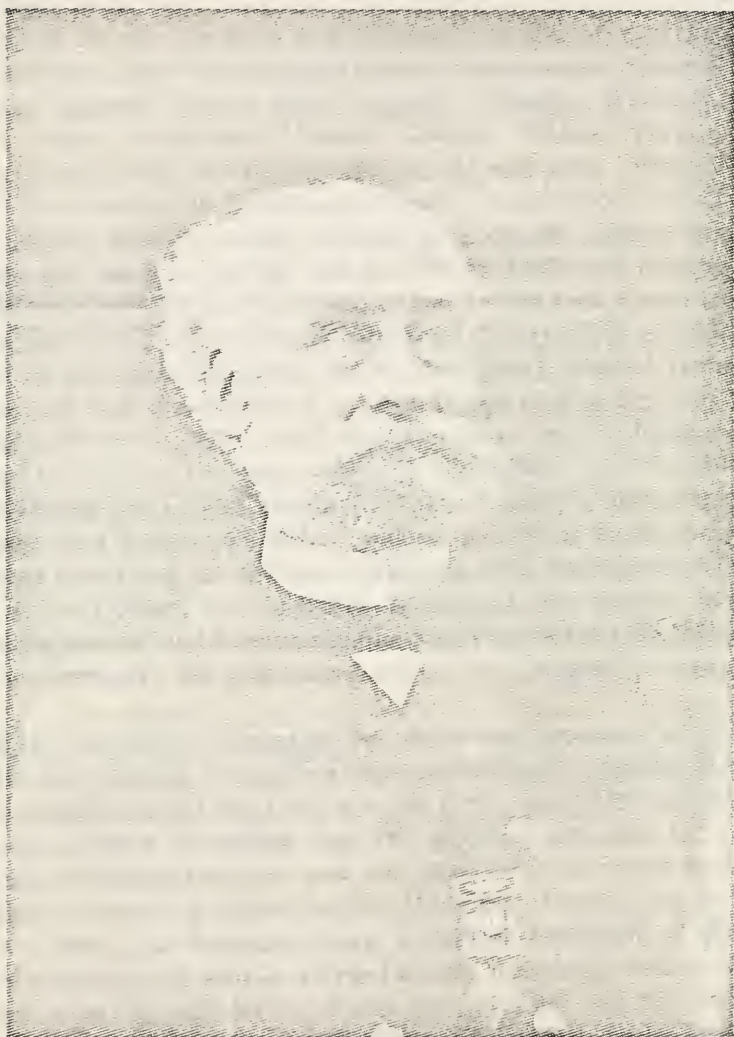
But who and what manner of woman was she. I have searched long and vainly to discover her maiden name. It seems to be altogether lost in that of her husband. Even her first name appears not to be anywhere preserved. I believe it was Eunice. Probably if not Eunice it was Lois, as those were the names of her two daughters. But whatever her name she became the wife of Robert Stetson and the mother of us all.

To this sainted mother's fragrant memory we should pay honors as large, devotion as true as we render to him who was the patriarch of the race. She came to his side in the full and brave consciousness that she was taking up a life of toil, anxiety, privation, hardship and danger such as in this age of comparative ease we can have no adequate conception of. That she was a woman of rare gifts I can have no doubt, for it was necessary to the sequence. She must have had a good intellect, some education, strong faith, great courage, tact and wisdom. Without such qualities in large measure she could not under such difficult conditions and in so secluded a place have reared and prepared for their great after usefulness so many fairly well educated children. A good mother deserves the highest homage. I cannot but respect the great Roman Catholic branch of the Christian Church for so magnifying motherhood in giving such holy eminence to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Cornelia, the Roman matron, when asked about her jewels, pointed to her two sons and said: "These are my jewels." I will quote here what I once said elsewhere: "Maternity

is woman's crown, children the crown jewels which the humblest mother in the land may proudly wear and regally display, provided only their characters are rightly shaped and polished." And God blesses maternity, for with rare exception the women who live longest and enjoy most are the mothers of large families.

What sort of a man Robert Stetson was can be inferred only from his life. No portrait of him ever existed. No description of him was ever written. The lineaments of that strong face, the contour of that stalwart form are lost forever in the ashes of an unknown grave. Nevertheless, from what we know of his life, I think we may predicate something even concerning these. It was a face usually grave, thoughtful, earnest and resolute. Also compassionate and kind, for one unhappy incident has disclosed the fact that he was not only entirely free from the alleged austerity of his age, but was a most forbearing and affectionate father. As to his person, it was strong and muscular. It must have been to bear the wear and strain of all that was laid upon it and endure for ninety years. All the labor of the farm and mill, all the unusual weight of the responsibility of official life during the Indian war period in which he served, and all the toilsome, perilous journeys he was compelled to make—all this called for exceptional health and strength.

Of how strong and able a character he was we can have a quite accurate conception. We read of a stone age, an iron age and a golden age. I would call the age in which he lived here in America the merit age. Men were elected to office, not to gratify their personal ambition, nor because they could deceive the people by the arts and tricks of the politicians. They were elected upon their merits alone. They were elected because their fellow-citizens knew they were well qualified to perform perilous and important duties under hard conditions. They were elected because of their pre-eminent fitness. Something also may be inferred from the environment, from the kind of community out of which a man is taken, as one manifestly superior to his fellows in the qualities required. In 1654 Scituate had become the foremost town in the Colony. In population, wealth and enterprise it had far out-



WARREN B. STETSON.
Middleboro'.
A DIRECTOR.

stripped Plymouth. It paid about fifty per cent. more in taxes, furnished nearly twice as many men for the war and in every way ranked first.

Many of her citizens were well educated and able men. John Hoar, ancestor of the distinguished family of that name; Edward Saffin and Edward Foster were lawyers. Timothy Hatherly, General James Cudworth, Vassall, Torrey, Tilden, Turner, Chittenden and many others were strong and able men. What I claim in that connection is that out of such a community, at such a time, Robert Stetson would not have been elected Deputy the very first year he was eligible, and kept in that office by annual elections for eight consecutive years, unless he had been a man of superior intellect and surpassing wisdom. Observe they elected him not to some inferior place, but to the highest office at their disposal. If such a community as that placed such a high estimate upon his worth, ability and character, shall we, his descendants, not take him at the same valuation and believe that, though living a simple life, he was a truly great man? But we have other testimony than that of his fellow townsmen. When he went to the Colony Court and entered into fellowship with the experienced rulers of the Colony, they speedily recognized his fitness for responsible service, and he soon became one of the busiest members of the government. He was placed among the foremost in many ways.

Of the wonderful circumspection and strict propriety of his personal life there is convincing negative evidence. During the time in which he lived the laws were so strict, punishing people for every possible peccadillo and the slightest offences, for a multitude of things that are now not offences at all—that as a consequence scarcely a person in the colony but at some time had to pay a fine. As Governor Long, a former President of the Pilgrim Society, truly said in a recent speech, many high in church and state were found guilty and fined. So universal was this that it was apparently regarded as of little consequence. To be fined for speaking disrespectfully of some one in office was a wrong. Usually a man should have been commended rather than fined.

But so correct and circumspect was the life of Robert Stetson, his name does not once appear in this category.

He was a farmer, mechanic, manufacturer, business man, legislator, military officer and judge, and in all his long, crowded, strenuous life not a single blot or blur upon his moral character to mar the record. Of how many men living or dead can this be said?

Descended from such a man and from such a woman, you would expect to find many able and useful men and women in all the walks of life. Rev. John Stetson Barry, the historian of the family, tells us that such was the case. I will mention one whom Barry had apparently not traced. From among her native born sons, Massachusetts has sent some great men to the United States Senate, but among them, never one who had so largely the courage of his convictions, who ever did and said greater things and suffered so much personally for performance of duty, never a greater or a grander man, than that illustrious descendant of Cornet Stetson, the Hon. Charles Sumner. But, alas! Sumner left no descendants. Of how many others of the Stetson race has not that been unfortunately true. I think it possible that President Roosevelt may be the best and longest remembered for standing up in his high place and uttering brave words in deprecation of race suicide. Is the Stetson family in danger of race suicide? Are its men too much engaged in purely selfish pursuits to take upon themselves the care of a family? It was God's great and first command to the human race, "Multiply and replenish the earth." It is a command the disregard of which by declination of the marriage relation carries its own penalty along with it,

"The man concentrated all in self," whatever his "renown," must
 "die unwept." "No loved one nigh
 He is floating down by himself to die."

No one to care for him in old age and last sickness, weep at his departure and keep his memory alive. Contrast with such a going off the case of Cornet Stetson. Enveloped in the tender care and

love of his great retinue of children and children's children, he forgot almost that it was nightfall, and passed from this to an eternal state of things almost oblivious to the great transition. And though it may have been a short journey from his home to his grave, it was a long procession of mourning children and grandchildren that followed and kept his name in vivid remembrance, as have his posterity even unto the present day. But will this continue? Is that insidious disease, "race suicide," at work among us? If so, the time will come, perhaps not very long hence, when the last Stetson shall painfully seek this place, look sadly around over the old homestead, turn sorrowfully away and the last sentence in the history of the Stetson family will be written and the record closed. This is really too gloomy a picture for a festal occasion, and I will try to paint one more optimistic. Will take for its inspiration an extract from the last will and testament of Robert Stetson: "Further, it is my will that my sd. eldest son shall not alien or sell any of the lands above given him unless to his children or one of them." In this I read between the lines an implied wish that the immediate homestead, which he had given to his oldest son Joseph might remain always, if possible, in the family. Never did such a testamentary hope find fuller fruition.

In the line of his son, Joseph Stetson, it continued until 1835. two hundred years from the time he first landed here and began to clear the land. Then, by the death of Charles Stetson, it passed to the Sampson family, still in the blood, but not in the name. The time came, however, when it was offered for sale and seemed likely to pass into stranger hands. Mr. George W. Stetson obtained an option upon it for a time. Subsequently a descendant of Joseph, the "sd. eldest son" of the Cornet, became interested and came to the rescue. He had the opportunity and the ability to make it his own personal possession. But that he saw would not in the fullest degree secure the accomplishment of the Cornet's wish, would not make it certain the property would be kept out of the market and away from strange hands, for "Men may come and men may go," but a corporation he knew would, like Tenny-

son's brook, "Go on for ever." So with unique unselfishness that is beyond precedent and above all praise he interested himself to provide and procure the means to have this homestead secured for the whole family, for all of us who will join the corporation.

I refer to this not to commend him, for he would deprecate that, and I do it in the fear that it may offend him, risking that in the hope that it may be an inspiration to you to stand by him in his altogether patriotic endeavor and aid him in every way in your power. To resolve that this enterprise and our race shall not perish from off the earth. To say that in all things so far as possible we will emulate the great example of our revered ancestor, Cornet Robert Stetson. If we, if all the descendants thus resolve and keep the resolution, then will this indeed be a sacred shrine whither pilgrims of the Stetson kindred from year to year and from generation to generation in constantly increasing numbers, shall journey forever and forever.

Remarks were made by other members of the kindred and officers were elected as follows:

President, Francis Lynde Stetson, of New York; Vice-President, Robert Stetson Gorham, of Boston; Secretary and Treasurer, George W. Stetson, of Medford, Mass.; Executive Committee, George W. Stetson, Warren B. Stetson, of Middleboro; Miss Susey A. Smith, of Kingston, Mass.; Board of Directors, the above and Daniel E. Damon, of Plymouth; Eugene E. Stetson, of Norwell; James B. Stetson, of San Francisco, Cal.; Thomas D. Stetson, of New York; W. W. Stetson, of Augusta, Me., and Albert Stetson, of Los Angeles, Cal.

The memorial minute adopted by the Directors on the death of the first Vice-President of the corporation was read and the action of the Directors endorsed by a rising vote.



EUGENE E. STETSON.

Hanover.

A DIRECTOR.

THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OF THE CORPORATION

Stetson Kindred of America, Inc.

OFFICERS.

Officers—President, Francis Lynde Stetson, New York City, N. Y.; Vice-President, Robert Stetson Gorham, Newton, Mass.; Secretary and Treasurer, George William Stetson, Medford, Mass. Executive Committee—George W. Stetson, Medford, Mass.; Warren B. Stetson, Middleboro, Mass.; Miss Susey A. Smith, Kingston, Mass.

Board of Directors—The above officers and Daniel E. Damon, Plymouth, Mass.; Eugene E. Stetson, Norwell, Mass.; James B. Stetson, San Francisco, Cal.; Thomas Drew Stetson, New York, N. Y.; W. W. Stetson, Augusta, Me.; Albert Stetson, Los Angeles, Cal.

MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION.

The Above Officers and Members of the Corporation.

Cyrus H. Stetson.....	Bridgewater, Mass.
Mrs. Augusta B. Cheney.....	Kingston, Mass.
Mrs. C. J. Turner.....	N. Pembroke, Mass.
Loretta F. Stetson.....	So. Weymouth, Mass.
*William Stetson	Brockton, Mass.
Miss Helen Cushman.....	Brockton, Mass.
Miss Ethel F. Stetson.....	Whitman, Mass.
F. W. Stetson.....	Boston, Mass.
Mrs. Ellen B. Dyer.....	Hanover, Mass.
Mrs. J. Anderson Bennett.....	Quincy, Mass.
Miss Harriet S. Stetson.....	Bridgewater, Mass.
America E. Stetson.....	Whitman, Mass.

*Died since list was in type.

James H. Stetson.....	Quincy, Mass.
George R. Stetson.....	New Bedford, Mass.
James S. Stetson.....	Bridgewater, Mass.
Nelson M. Stetson.....	Duxbury, Mass.
Clara Sigsby Stetson.....	Duxbury, Mass.
Harriet J. Ford.....	Duxbury, Mass.
C. F. Stetson.....	Duxbury, Mass.
Frank D. Stetson.....	East Whitman, Mass.
Arthur W. Stetson.....	Quincy, Mass.
F. D. Stetson.....	New Bedford, Mass.
Winslow Stetson.....	Boston, Mass.
Miss Alice Cushman.....	Brockton, Mass.
John N. S. Stetson.....	Brookline, Mass.
George W. Stetson.....	Middleborough, Mass.
Amos W. S. Anderson.....	Quincy, Mass.
Miss Esther S. Barry.....	Newtonville, Mass.
Martin Thayer.....	Onset, Mass.
Forest Leslie Stetson.....	Greenfield, Mass.
Robert C. Stetson.....	Stockbridge, Mass.
Israel Hatch	N. Marshfield, Mass.
W. Graydon Stetson.....	Brookline, Mass.
Mrs. Mary Clarke Stirrett.....	New Bedford, Mass.
Chester S. Stirrett.....	New Bedford, Mass.
Charlotte M. A. C. Spaulding.....	New Bedford, Mass.
Elsie A. Pratt.....	Rockland, Mass.
Ethel I. Stetson.....	Norwell, Mass.
Fannie S. W. Bates.....	Hanover, Mass.
Laura G. Pierce.....	Quincy, Mass.
Caroline M. Haggett.....	Natick, Mass.
Thomas C. Sampson.....	Norwell, Mass.
Sarah L. Sampson.....	Norwell, Mass.
George C. Turner.....	Norwell, Mass.
Joshua S. Gray.....	Rockland, Mass.
Mrs. Marion S. Jones.....	Brattleboro, Vt.
Mrs. Marion W. Y. McIntire.....	Denver, Col.
A. F. Stetson.....	Bangor, Me.
Edward Stetson	Bangor, Me.
John E. Stetson.....	South Royalston, Vt.
George H. Stetson.....	New York, N. Y.
Mrs. Dora W. Miller.....	Williamsport, Pa.
Joseph F. Stetson.....	Camden, Me.
John Smedley Stetson.....	New York, N. Y.
Frederic T. Stetson.....	New York, N. Y.

Arthur Dana Stetson.....	Brooklyn, N. Y.
George R. Stetson.....	Palmyra, N. Y.
Mary Clarke Cluett.....	Troy, N. Y.
George B. Cluett, 2d.....	Troy, N. Y.
Hiram W. Stetson.....	Burlington, Vt.
Herbert Randall.....	Hartford, Conn.
Mrs. Adaline B. Wheeler.....	Camden, Me.
Ada M. Wheeler.....	Camden, Me.
William M. Pierson.....	Alton, Ill.
Joshua A. Stetson.....	Providence, R. I.
Charles W. Stetson.....	Lonsdale, Pa.
Helen Stetson Larkin.....	Plattsburgh, N. Y.
Mrs. George E. Crane.....	Chicago, Ill.
Martin V. B. Stetson.....	Gloversville, N. Y.
Abby Leach.....	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Isaiah K. Stetson.....	Bangor, Me.
Caroline L. Baker.....	Plattsburgh, N. Y.
Anna Leach.....	Troy, N. Y.
Henry H. Josselyn.....	Hanover, Mass.
Benjamin L. Stetson.....	S. Hanover, Mass.
Sarah C. Stetson Bates.....	S. Hanover, Mass.
Lewis Reed	Rockland, Mass.
Ernest C. Stetson.....	Brockton, Mass.
Arthur H. Dyer.....	Norwell, Mass.
Horace T. Fogg.....	Norwell, Mass.
Lucy J. Stockbridge.....	S. Hanover, Mass.
Edith W. Curtis.....	S. Hanover, Mass.
Marcia P. Bates.....	Bridgewater, Mass.
Emma P. Pierce.....	East Milton, Mass.
Arthur Young.	Winthrop, Mass.
Quincy Reed	Whitman, Mass.
Dorothy Stetson	Waban, Mass.
John A. Stetson.....	Brookline, Mass.
Nellie M. Sparrell.....	Everett, Mass.
Jedediah Dwelley.....	N. Hanover, Mass.
Edith Leach.....	Northampton, Mass.
Mrs. N. M. Williams.....	Brockton, Mass.
Reuben C. Donnell.....	Hanover, Mass.
Cushing Hatch	Norwell, Mass.
Stella Jacobs Brown.....	Plymouth, Mass.
Rosabel S. Dunham.....	Bridgewater, Mass.
Ella Stetson Thayer.....	Brookline, Mass.
Fred B. Clapp.....	Somerville, Mass.

Mrs. George C. Morrow.....	Brockton, Mass.
Mrs. Ella J. Torrey.....	Rockland, Mass.
Edwin E. Jacobs.....	Assinippi, Mass.
Susan R. Clapp.....	Somerville, Mass.
Amos A. Phelps.....	Rockand, Mass.
Mrs. Sarah E. Allen.....	Hanover, Mass.
Frank L. Stetson.....	Medford, Mass.
William F. Stetson.....	Roxbury, Mass.



G. W. STETSON.

Medford, Mass.

SECY. TREAS

COPY OF THE DEED.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that I, THOMAS C. SAMPSON, of Norwell in the County of Plymouth and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in consideration of One Dollar and other valuable considerations paid by the STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA, INC., a corporation under the laws of Massachusetts, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said Stetson Kindred of America, Inc., its successors and assigns, the following described land, with the buildings thereon, situate in said Norwell, containing about forty-six and one-half acres, bounded:—

Northerly by land of Maria W. Tolman, land of Mary A. Studley and Emma L. Packard; easterly by land of Mary A. Studley and Emma L. Packard, land of William S. Simmons, land of Eliza Smith and land of Morrill A. Phillips, William C. Bates and H. W. Chandler, trustees; southerly and northerly by land of said trustees; then southerly by land of William S. Simmons; then easterly by land of William S. Simmons; then northerly by land of said Simmons; then easterly by a creek; then southerly by land of William C. Tolman; then easterly and northerly by land of said William C. Tolman; then easterly by land of John Knapp; then southerly by land of James C. Waterman; then easterly by land of James C. Waterman, land of Alpheus Damon and land of F. E. Henderson; southerly by land of Gilbert West and land of Mary A. Studley and Emma L. Packard; then westerly and northerly by land of Ruthetta M. Sylvester, Emily E. Sylvester, R. Irving Sylvester, Maria W. Sylvester, Herbert R. Sylvester and Martha W. Turner; then southerly by land of Edward P. Tolman; then westerly again by land of Thomas C. Sampson and land of Henry D. Smith; together with a right of way from said land to Elm Street appertaining to said land, all as shown on two plans by C. S. Deane, Surveyor, dated August, 1906, on file with case numbered 1489 in the office of the Land Court.

This conveyance is made subject to the existing rights of way, if any.

For my title reference may be had to said case numbered 1489 in the Land Court, in which I was Petitioner.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the granted premises, with all the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, to the said Stetson Kindred of America, Inc., and its successors and assigns, to their own use and behoof forever.

And I hereby, for myself and my heirs, executors and administrators, covenant with the grantee and his heirs and assigns, that I am lawfully seized in fee simple of the granted premises; that they are free from all incumbrances, except possible rights of way as aforesaid; that I have good right to sell and convey the same as aforesaid; and that I will, and my heirs, executors and administrators shall, WARRANT and DEFEND the same to the grantee and his heirs and assigns forever against the lawful claims and demands of all persons.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, the said Thomas C. Sampson, being unmarried, hereunto set my hand and seal this 28th day of December in the year One thousand nine hundred and six.

(Signed) THOMAS C. SAMPSON. (Seal)

Signed and sealed)
in presence of)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SUFFOLK, ss:

BOSTON, DECEMBER 28, 1906.

Then personally appeared the above-named Thomas C. Sampson, and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his free act and deed.

Before me,

(Signed) HENRY L. SHATTUCK,

Justice of the Peace.

December 31, 1906, at 4 o'clock and 40 minutes P. M.
Received and entered with Plymouth Co. Deeds, Libro 959, folio 282-3.

(Signed) JOHN B. WASHBURN,

Register.

OWNER'S DUPLICATE CERTIFICATE.

Original Certificate of Title Registered In Book 1, Page 70.
No. 70.

Entered pursuant to a decree of the Land Court, dated at Boston, in the County of Suffolk and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the twentieth day of February, in the year nineteen hundred and seven, and numbered 1489 on the files of said Court.

COPY OF DECREE.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

LAND COURT.

In the matter of the Petition of THOMAS C. SAMPSON, numbered 1489, after consideration, the Court doth adjudge and decree that the STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA, INC., a corporation organized under the laws of said Commonwealth, and whose name has been substituted on motion, is the owner in fee simple of that certain parcel of land situate in Norwell in the County of Plymouth and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: Southerly on land now or formerly of Mary A. Studley et al and land now or formerly of Gilbert West, 1349.25 feet; westerly 224 feet, northerly 283.5 feet and westerly 734.7 feet, all on land now or formerly of Ruthetta M. Sylvester et als; southerly on said Sylvester land and land now or formerly of Edward P. Tolman, 394 feet; westerly again on land now or formerly of Thomas C. Sampson and land now or formerly of Henry D. Smith, 776.5 feet; northerly 238 feet. easterly 205.5 feet, northerly 57.5 feet and northwesterly 434.75 feet, all on land now or formerly of Maria W. Tolman; northerly again 368 feet and easterly 445.5 feet on land now or formerly of Mary A. Studley et al; southeasterly 262.7 feet and northerly 97.33 feet on land now or formerly of William C. Litchfield; easterly again on land now or formerly of Eliza Smith, 152.5 feet; southerly 340 feet, easterly 340.75 feet and northerly by a ditch to the middle of a creek. all on land now or formerly of Morrill A. Phillips et als, Trustees; northeasterly by the middle of said creek on land now or formerly of Charles Barnard; southerly by a ditch, easterly 97.5 feet and again north-

erly by a ditch to the middle of said creek, the last three lines all on land now or formerly of William C. Litchfield; northeasterly again by the middle of said creek on said Barnard land; southerly by a ditch, easterly and again northerly by a ditch to the middle of a creek, the last three lines on land now or formerly of William C. Tolman; easterly by a creek, southeasterly by a ditch about 253 feet and easterly about 172 feet on land now or formerly of John Knapp; southerly on land now or formerly of James C. Waterman about 465 feet and easterly on said Waterman land, land now or formerly of Alpheus Damon, and land now or formerly of F. E. Henderson, about 720 feet. So much of the above described land as is included within the right of way shown on the plan hereinafter mentioned at the southeast corner of the above described land is subject to the use of the same by the owners and occupants for the time being of said Alpheus Damon land and their assigns, and so much of the above described land as is included in the right of way running through the same from east to west as shown on said plan is subject to the use of the same by the owners and occupants for the time being of said James C. Waterman land and their assigns, said John Knapp land and their assigns, said William C. Tolman land and their assigns, said William C. Litchfield land lying between the two ditches, as shown on said plan and their assigns, said Charles Barnard land and their assigns, said Morrill A. Phillips et als, Trustees, land and their assigns, said Eliza Smith land and their assigns, and by the owners and occupants for the time being and their assigns of two parcels of land not adjacent to the above described, one belonging to Henry M. Stetson and the other to Seth Foster, said rights of way to be used by the said owners and occupants for the purposes only of carting wood and hay from the swamps and marshes easterly of the above described land. There is appurtenant to the above described land the right to pass at all times on foot and with vehicles from Elm Street to the above described land over the right of way shown on a plan of the same drawn by C. S. Deane, dated August, 1906, filed in the Land Registration Office, and all of the boundaries of the above described land are

determined by the Court to be located as shown on another plan drawn by said Deane, dated and filed as aforesaid, a copy of a portion of which is filed with the original certificate of title issued on this decree.

And the Court doth adjudge and decree that said land be brought under the operation and provisions of Chapter 128 of the Revised Laws, and that the title of said Stetson Kindred of America, Incorporated, to said land be confirmed and registered; subject, however, to any of the encumbrances mentioned in Section 38 of said Chapter which may be subsisting, and subject also as aforesaid.

Witness, LEONARD A. JONES, Esquire, Judge of the Land Court, at Boston, in said County of Suffolk, the twentieth day of February, in the year nineteen hundred and seven, at 10 o'clock and 30 minutes in the forenoon.

Attest, with the Seal of said Court.

[SEAL.] CLARENCE C. SMITH,
Recorder.

A true copy. Attest, with the Seal of said Court,

[SEAL.] CLARENCE C. SMITH,
Recorder.

Received for transcription at Plymouth County Registry District. February 23, 1907, at 9 o'clock and 30 minutes A. M.

A true copy. Attest, with the Seal of said Court.

JOHN B. WASHBURN.
Assistant Recorder.

JAMES C. WATERMAN

ALPHEUS DAMON

F.E. HENDERSON

RIGHT OF WAY

EST

8803

117 347 - 117 347

MARY A. STUDLEY ET AL.

MARIA W. TOLMAN

HENRY D. SMITH

THOS. C. SAMPSON

EDWARD P. TOLMAN

WM. BRILL A. PHILLIPS ET AL.

PAVILION

BARN

HOUSE

WM. CLITCHFIELD

DITCH

DITCH

DITCH

DITCH

WM. C. TOLMAN

DITCH

JOHN KNAPP

CHAS. BARNARD

CREEK

JAMES C. WATERMAN

ALPHEUS DAMON

GILBERT WEST

F. E. HENDERSON

MARY A. STUDLEY ET AL.

TO ELM ST. RIGHT OF WAY

RIGHT OF WAY

RIGHT OF WAY

2688

